

## COMMISSION'S WORK

### Gov. Taft Continues His Description of Philippine Conditions

HEARING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE

### He Declares That a Purely Native Government Would Fail

FILES ON EDUCATION

Governor Taft today continued his statement before the Senate committee on the Philippines regarding the conditions existing in those islands.

Answering a question by Mr. Lodge, he ascribed the condition of the Island of Samar, where the people are still in insurrection, and said he was not prepared to say that this island was never wholly subdued by Spanish arms.

He then described the qualifications requisite for an elector in the different towns where the commission had established governments. These were that such person all speak and write English or speak and write Spanish, or have filled a municipal office in the Spanish rule, or that he shall pay \$15 gold tax.

**Work of the Commission.**

Governor Taft then entered upon a general narrative of the work of the commission. When the commission arrived at Manila they found the people divided into three classes, those in favor of the exclu-

Governor Taft said that the instructions from the United States usually placed more power in the civil government, had had a marvelous effect upon the people. He insisted, he said, had been most successful in the Philippines, where, in this country, with the view of influencing them, and for this reason it had been difficult to bring the Filipinos to a discussion of the subject. There was doubt as to what the policy of the United States would be. "The Filipinos," he continued, "are not doing, because it seemed to play no important part in the situation, but when we began to discuss the matter, they began to fight in the matter of approval of the gentlemen who were spending the large sums of money." Governor Taft said it will be found on investigation, that the surrenders by the insurgents of arms and men were far in excess of those made by the United States. The municipal code was not put in operation, he said, until after the president's visit to the Philippine Islands, because of the unstable condition.

As soon as it became known to the people that the commission had thought it best to postpone the election of governors, which occur next month, the Filippinos flocked to them with expressions of satisfaction.

**Theory of the Commission.**

He said that the theory of the commission in their formation of civil government was to be an indispensable aid to the ultimate success of popular government, and the extension of education, but that the effect of this could not be felt for a generation, until the children had grown to manhood. Here, he said, 10,000 adults engaged in the study of English. "In the meantime," he said, "the commission has attention is on the small educated portion of the community, who form a nucleus out of which, with the aid of American conducted, I think a stable government can be effected."

**A Native Government Would Fail.**

He could assert without hesitation, he said, that lacking American initiative and American knowledge of how to carry on a complete any government there must be a complete failure.

In explanation of the obstacles to the complete tranquility of the islands, with reference to the provinces of Batangas and Laguna, he said that the lack of quarters for the troops, which was the cause of their being brought into close contact with the people, was the principal complaint and he urged that such quarters be provided.

Gov. Taft declared that the chief aim of the commission was the good of the Philippines, and that they would do everything they endeavored to gain their confidence. In case they had been successful, the people

giving they will be given the best government possible and the secure enjoyment of their rights. He sought to move the susceptibility of the Filipinos to the influence which he achieved by the commission. It was not hard for him to explain the attitude of the Filipinos toward the army, because they could not be expected to understand the policy of which the government is inflected upon them. Gov. Taft discussed at some length the political conditions in the Philippines, in which, he said, the federal policy, in the Philippines, but the federal pay, he said, was the one which represented peace and influence.

He adjourned the session until tomorrow at 10:30, at which time Gov. Taft will continue his statement.

**SAILING OF THE THOMAS.**

**Departure of the Army Transport for the Philippines.**

The War Department is advised of the sailing of the transport Thomas from San Francisco from the Philippines, with the following passengers: Col. Burt, 25th Infantry; Major Owen and Captain Demoy, medical department; Major Paulding, 3d Infantry; Lieuts. Shaffer, 18th; McFeely, 10th; and Lieuts. H. H. Smith, 10th and 1st Infantry; Richard D. Nevers, 10th and 1st Infantry.

chry: Screws and Baker, 19th Infantry; Schmeimer, 11th; Deems, Artillery Corps; Caldwell, Hutchinson, Finlayson, Haddon, Johnson, Moore and Clairmont, Philippine Scouts. Four contract surgeons, ten hospital and three Signal Corps men. Recruits unassigned: Infantry, 1,115; cavalry, 1,000; Artillery, 200; Engineers, 100; mounted casuals and twenty-three recruits assigned as follows: Infantry, 12th, 1; 10th, 1; 11th, 1; 12th, 1; 13th, 1; 14th, 1; 15th, 1; 16th, 2; 36th Company Coast Artillery, 1.

**Personal Mention.**

Admiral Sir John Forney, of the coast and petty survey, has been ordered to consult with the superintendent of his department. Capt. Forney has been with the coast survey department on numerous important missions. He will return to his station on the coast survey ship "Albatross," which is making resurvey of the Nanticoke and Wicomico rivers.

Rev. Dr. Eustace Sanger of the War Department has been summoned to New York city by the serious illness of his mother.

Mr. Thomas of West Superior,

**Naval Promotions Announced.**  
Commander William A. Windsor, Lieut. Commander William E. Sewell and Lieut. (junior grade) Henry T. Baker have been promoted to the next higher grade in the